

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1965

To direct the Secretary of the Interior, the Bureau of Reclamation, to conduct a feasibility study on the Jicarilla Apache Reservation in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 18, 1999

Mr. DOMENICI (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior, the Bureau of Reclamation, to conduct a feasibility study on the Jicarilla Apache Reservation in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4       Congress finds that—

5               (1) there are major deficiencies with regard to  
6       adequate and sufficient water supplies available to  
7       residents of the Jicarilla Apache Reservation in the  
8       State of New Mexico;

1           (2) the existing municipal water system that  
2           serves the Jicarilla Apache Reservation is under the  
3           ownership and control of the Bureau of Indian Af-  
4           fairs and is outdated, dilapidated, and cannot ade-  
5           quately and safely serve the existing and future  
6           growth needs of the Jicarilla Apache Tribe;

7           (3) the federally owned municipal water system  
8           on the Jicarilla Apache Reservation has been unable  
9           to meet the minimum Federal water requirements  
10          necessary for discharging water into a public water-  
11          course and has been operating without a Federal  
12          discharge permit;

13          (4) the federally owned municipal water system  
14          that serves the Jicarilla Apache Reservation has  
15          been cited by the United States Environmental Pro-  
16          tection Agency for violations of Federal safe drink-  
17          ing water standards and poses a threat to public  
18          health and safety both on and off the Jicarilla  
19          Apache Reservation;

20          (5) the lack of reliable supplies of potable water  
21          impedes economic development and has detrimental  
22          effects on the quality of life and economic self-suffi-  
23          ciency of the Jicarilla Apache Tribe;

24          (6) due to the severe health threats and impedi-  
25          ments to economic development, the Jicarilla Apache

1 Tribe has authorized and expended \$4,500,000 of  
2 tribal funds for the repair and replacement of the  
3 municipal water system on the Jicarilla Apache Res-  
4 ervation; and

5 (7) the United States has a trust responsibility  
6 to ensure that adequate and safe water supplies are  
7 available to meet the economic, environmental, water  
8 supply, and public health needs of the Jicarilla  
9 Apache Indian Reservation.

10 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION.**

11 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—Pursuant to reclamation laws,  
12 the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Rec-  
13 lamation and in consultation and cooperation with the  
14 Jicarilla Apache Tribe, shall conduct a feasibility study  
15 to determine the most feasible method of developing a safe  
16 and adequate municipal, rural, and industrial water sup-  
17 ply for the residents of the Jicarilla Apache Indian Res-  
18 ervation in the State of New Mexico.

19 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after funds are  
20 appropriated to carry out this Act, the Secretary of the  
21 Interior shall transmit to Congress a report containing the  
22 results of the feasibility study required by subsection (a).

1 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2       There are authorized to be appropriated \$200,000 to  
3 carry out this Act.

